

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 231502

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ORIGIN EB-02

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DRAFTED BY: EB:JMDERHAM:BM

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R 292033Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY JULIUS KATZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT BERN 4017 ACTION SECSTATE 25 SEPT

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 4017

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MANNION/L AND LPD, STROBEL/D AND P,
ANDERSON/LD AND P. WHITE AND DOERING/ITP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR SZ

SUBJ: SWISS SPECIAL MEAT IMPORT QUOTA FROM THE US

REF: TOFAS 58

1. SWISS IMPORT TRADE REPORTS RUMORS THAT THE SWISS HAVE
DECIDED TO SUSPEND 2ND QUARTER US MEAT IMPORT QUOTA OF
75 TONS STARTING OCTOBER 1. DR. GLAETTLI, HEAD OF ANIMAL
SECTION, AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT ASSURED AGATT THAT THE
DECISION HAD NOT AND WOULD NOT BE MADE UNTIL MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29. DATE OF DECISION COINCIDES WITH THE RETURN
OF AMBASSADOR JACOBI, DIVISION OF COMMERCE, WHO IS KEY TO
THE MEETING.

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PAGE 02 STATE 231502

2. AGATT HAS ARRANGED MEETING WITH MR. KRELL, CHIEF, US
DESK UNDER JACOBI, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 10.00 AM TO
EXPRESS CONCERN FOR (1) TRADE DISRUPTIVE EFFECT OF DELAYING
DECISION UNTIL LESS THAN 48 HOURS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION AND
(2) INITIATING EARLY CONSULTATIONS WITH THIS OFFICE ON MATTERS
OF SUCH SIGNIFICANCE.

3. SUBJECT TO YOUR APPROVAL WE WOULD PROPOSE AT FRIDAY'S
MEETING (A) THE QUARTERLY ASSESSMENT OF THE US QUOTA BE
DISCONTINUED IN FAVOR OF A RETURN TO THE ANNUAL ANNOUNCEMENT.
INHERENT IN THIS ELEMENT IS AN AWARENESS THAT THE SWISS COULD
SUSPEND ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE QUOTA AT ANY TIME. (B)
ANY CONTEMPLATED MODIFICATION, SUSPENSION, OR REDUCTION OF
THE QUOTA BE COMMUNICATED TO THIS OFFICE NOT LATER THAN 30
DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION. THE OBJECT OF
THESE PROPOSALS WOULD BE TO RESTORE GREATER STABILITY TO TRADE
THAT, UNDER PRESENT PRACTICES, ARE SERIOUSLY DISRUPTIVE AND
COULD FINANCIALLY CRIPPLE EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES, ESPECIALLY
WHEN PRODUCT IS IN PRODUCTION OR IN-TRANSIT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED.

A. YOUR COMMENTS REGARDING EMBASSY PROPOSAL.
B. ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY HAVE INDICATING A CHANGE
IN THE PRESENT STATUS OF SWISS CHEESE IMPORTS THAT
MIGHT BE DISQUIETING TO THE SWISS. LATEST QUANTITA-
TIVE DATA ON US IMPORTS OF SWISS CHEESE SHOW A DE-
CLINE OF 17 PERCENT IN QUANTITY AND 4 PERCENT IN
VALUE IN THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 1975
COMPARED TO SAME PERIOD A YEAR AGO.
C. PLEASE RESPOND SOONEST.
ODELL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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